JESUS RODRIGUEZ

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

San Diego 330 West Broadway San Diego, CA 92101 (619) 531-4040

http://www.sandiegoda.com

(619) 531-3536

Contact: Paul Levikow

BONNIE M. DUMANIS DISTRICT ATTORNEY

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Satellite Technology to be used in Keeping Track of High Risk Sex Offenders Paroled in San Diego

San Diego District Attorney Bonnie M. Dumanis joined with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation and local law enforcement officials today to announce a new program designed to closely monitor high risk sex offenders paroled into San Diego, using the latest satellite technology.

"We have promised State Parole, and we promise the community, our office will aggressively prosecute any sex offender parolee who violates any law in San Diego County," DA Bonnie M. Dumanis said. "Our joint goal is to stop sex offenders from re-offending."

The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) has chosen San Diego for a pilot program that will monitor the parolees 24 hours a day, seven days a week, with the use of global positioning satellite transmitters worn on their ankles.

Dumanis made the announcement at a news conference with CDCR Undersecretary Jeanne Woodford, San Diego County Sheriff William Kolender, San Diego Police Chief William Lansdowne and Special Agent Supervisor Ernie Limon of the Sexual Assault Felony Enforcement Task Force.

"We anticipate that more than 70 high-risk sex offender parolees will be issued these electronic bracelets to make it easier for San Diego law enforcement agencies to track their whereabouts," said Roderick Q. Hickman, Secretary of the CDCR. "This pilot serves as a perfect example of the state's commitment to enhancing public safety, while using innovative technology that can be monitored by multiple law enforcement agencies."

"The community of San Diego will be safer as we work with State Parole and District Attorney Bonnie Dumanis to utilize new technology to monitor and track high risk sex offenders," Chief Lansdowne said.

The District Attorney's Sex Crimes/Stalking Division will handle the prosecution of these cases and will make at least one senior deputy DA available around the clock to assist State Parole in this program. While the GPS transponders will help successfully prosecute parole violators, the technology will also eliminate potential suspects.